



Shelby County Office of Preparedness

Bob Nations, Jr., Director

Operations Command Center

1075 Mullins Station Road, Suite 113

Memphis, Tennessee 38134

901.515.2525

August 13, 2012

Shelby County Opens New Disaster Command Center

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness will dedicate its new offices and *Emergency Operations Center* this Friday, August 17th, 1075 Mullins Station Road, Suite 113, at 10 a.m.

The new center, located at the Shelby County Administration Building in east Memphis, will have the latest technology to ensure disasters and other community emergencies are coordinated as effectively as possible. A demonstration of the new technology will be part of the program.

“In a disaster, Shelby County Government becomes the focal point to manage county-wide response and recovery resources. Damage reports and the use of recovery funds from a presidential disaster area declaration are coordinated by the Shelby County Office of Preparedness,” said Shelby County Mayor Mark H. Luttrell, Jr.

The new Shelby County facility will have direct links to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as the National Weather Service. The center's computers, phones and other technology will be coordinated and maintained by Shelby County Government.

“This facility and the new technologies will fulfill our duties in the National Response Framework system. Coordination is essential when responding to and recovering from disasters. The center will serve the citizens of Shelby County well,” said Shelby County Office of Preparedness Director, Bob Nations, Jr.

When a crisis occurs, support coordinators from all area law enforcement agencies, fire departments, emergency medical agencies, utility companies and others will respond to the Shelby County Operations Center.

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The coordinators, sometimes on duty 24 hours-a-day, will track 18 aspects of a community crisis:

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| 1. Public transportation | 10. Food |
| 2. Communications | 11. Energy/utilities |
| 3. Infrastructure/debris removal | 12. Law enforcement |
| 4. Firefighting | 13. Donations/volunteers |
| 5. Information and planning | 14. Hazardous materials |
| 6. Shelter/human services | 15. Recovery assistance |
| 7. Allocation of resources | 16. Care of animals |
| 8. Health/medical services | 17. Public/private partnerships |
| 9. Urban search and rescue | 18. Faith-based partnerships |

For more information about this Friday's dedication event, contact Director Bob Nations at 901.515.2525.

(End of Release)